CES Environmental Services

SITE INFORMATION

The CES Griggs Road Site (Site) is a former industrial cleaning, waste recycling, and waste treatment facility. The Site is approximately 7.9 acres and is located in southeast Houston, Texas, approximately one mile north of Interstate Loop 610. The Site is comprised of three properties, 4904 Griggs Road, 5910 Wayland Street, and 4900 Griggs Road, located in a mixed land use area that includes various commercial establishments, residences, and a school.

The Site includes an administration building, several metal warehouses, an above ground storage tanks (ASTs) enclosure, and open areas used to store various waste containers (e.g. roll-off boxes, drums, vats).

CES conducted permitted operations on Site between 2002 and August 2010. In August 2010, CES filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and operations at the Site appear to have ceased at that time. In October 2010, the bankruptcy case was converted to a Chapter 7 liquidation proceeding. Cleanup efforts on Site will include soil and ground water investigations and remediation, if necessary.

In the early 1900s the Site was used for agriculture. In the early 1940s, the Younger family purchased the property and began trucking operations on Site as Younger Brothers, Inc. Operations included dispatch, storage, routine maintenance, and washing of tank trucks that hauled a variety of petrochemical substances. In June 2002, CES purchased the Site and expanded operations to provide services for the petrochemical industry in the area. Operations included cleaning and management of truck trailers, roll-off boxes, totes and other transportation equipment which contained petroleum products, paint thinners, solvents, and acids. CES also recycled motor oil and solvents such as acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, and methylene chloride and treated industrial wastewater at the Site.

In 2014, vandals illegally entered the Site and emptied several containers onto the ground. During another event in 2014, vandals removed portions of the security fence and opened a valve on a tanker truck trailer, releasing an unknown quantity of waste liquids. Subsequent heavy rainfall resulted in the release of oily water to adjacent storm drainage ditches. After each of these events, the bankruptcy trustee, the City of Houston, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) coordinated and mobilized to secure the Site and remove off-Site wastes. A barrier was constructed to prevent the further release of liquid off site.

WASTE REMOVAL

In September 2014 and as a response to the vandalism, the EPA and their emergency response contractor initiated waste removal activities. The EPA On-Scene Coordinator website describes the removal of waste materials from the various containers on Site.

Investigation and remediation

The TCEQ manages various programs, including the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP), for the cleanup of industrial sites. Investigation of suspected releases to soil and ground water are subject to the requirements of the Texas Risk Reduction Program (TRRP). The TRRP allows users to thoroughly evaluate potential risks associated with any chemicals identified in soil and ground water. The CES Griggs Road PRP Group represents a group of companies who during the operation of the CES facility sent recyclable or waste material to the Site. This group of companies have voluntarily agreed to conduct the investigation and remediation, if necessary, in accordance with state requirements. This website was created to keep the public community informed of various future activities on Site related to this cleanup, investigation and remediation.

Links

- EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC)
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Voluntary Cleanup (TCEQ) Program (VCP)
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Texas Risk Reduction Program (TRRP)

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